

Grace Church Visitor

A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Grace Reformed Church

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

VOL. XXVI

FEBRUARY, 1915

No. 4

During Easter week we will have services beginning with Tuesday evening. Bring your friends who have no church homes with you to these meetings.

The choir, under the efficient leadership of Mr Leslie Jacobs, will render a beautiful cantata on Easter evening, entitled Easter Praise by Ferris. They are sparing neither time nor effort in their preparation for this cantata and we hope that the church will show its appreciation of their work by a large attendance at the services on Sunday evening. There will also be several violin selections by Georgiiette Bonelli, with organ accompaniment.

A social day and all day sewing will be held at the church Thursday, April 1st. All the women of the church are invited to come to the church on that day. If you can not come for the whole day, come for the afternoon. Bring your lunch with you and remain for the services in the evening. The monthly meeting of the Woman's Aid society will be held in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The "Get Acquainted Evening" at the church a short time ago was a very pleasant social affair. Everybody enjoyed the evening and the people had a good opportunity to get acquainted with each other. The program of toasts and music added very much to the enjoyment of the evening. It has been suggested that we should have such gatherings at the church every few months.

Mr. Wilbert has just returned from a week's visit with his aged father at Carrol, Ohio. His father is enjoying the best of health and hopes to make a visit to Fort Wayne next summer.

EASTER SUNDAY.

This is always a day of joy and rejoicing. It is the day of victory. We hope to make it a great one for our church this year. We want every member out to all of the services. We will have a special program for the Sunday School at 9:30. Come to this service. The communion service, baptism and reception of members at 10:30. The evening service at 7:30. Special music by the choir at both morning and evening services. The Easter offering will be for benevolence. The scholars in the Sunday School and the members of the church will be furnished with special envelopes for this offering. We should have a liberal offering. Plan to be at these services.

The young people in the catechetical class will be received into the church on Easter Sunday. We have just fairly begun the study of the catechism, owing to the meetings at the tabernacle, we could not meet the class during January and February. However, we are going right on with the class until we complete the catechism. All of the boys and girls in the class publicly accepted Christ at the tabernacle and we feel that now is the time when they should unite with the church. They are all at an age where they can intelligently accept Christ and unite with the church. Many of the churches in the city receive the children of seven and eight years of age into full membership of the church, and why not if Jesus calls them? Why not answer the call of the Master, and open the door and let Him in and come into the church?

Your business as a Christian is to be at church whenever the church doors are open.

THE HARVEST OF SOULS.

It was reported in the city papers a few weeks ago that more than two thousand souls had been gathered into the churches, since the close of the meetings at the tabernacle. We are sure that since then some hundreds more have come into the churches, but the harvest is not yet ended, and will not be for months and possibly for years to come. Eternity alone will reveal the full results of the campaign. The harvest is ripe and we must keep on praying and working. Hundreds of people who have not yet made a public confession of Christ have been moved by the Holy Spirit, and are not far from the kingdom. The ingathering of souls will depend upon our prayers and efforts. The enthusiasm and passion for souls must not abate; our zeal must be intensified, and the work must go on.

It is a great joy to see men and women out in search of souls and bringing them to the services, and then win them for Christ. One of the evidences of a true conversion is the passion for souls. Many of the new recruits in the churches are now anxious about their friends and neighbors, and are trying to win them for Christ. We rejoice in the spirit of enthusiasm that has come into the church. The earnestness which the people manifest in testifying for Christ and in taking part in the public services and the willingness to do work for the Master are evidences of a genuine revival. To be happy and successful in the Christian life we must confess Jesus and work for Him. We must use the talents He has given us. God's law of service is "Use or lose." The Master says the branch that does not bear fruit is taken away. As an additional word of counsel to the church, we want to emphasize again the importance of regular attendance upon divine service. The church needs your presence at the services and you need the help of the services. You cannot get along without the means of grace in God's house. Do not think it is suf-

ficient for you to be at the services now and then. Every church member needs the help of the prayer meeting service, and all of the Sabbath services. Being at the services once a Sabbath is serving the Lord at a "poor dying rate." "Onceers" are the next door to noneers. To be a fruitful and growing Christian you must keep in living touch with Christ and you must be a worker. One of the surest evidences of being a child of God is the heart and soul thirst and hunger for the service in the house of God. The Psalmist says: My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Blessed are they that dwell in the house of the Lord, they will still be praising Thee." Have you this soul hunger? If so, encourage it; do not quench it. If you do not have it, do not rest day nor night until you find it.

The annual meetings of St. Joseph classis will be held in Grace church in the month of May. The Classical Sunday School convention will open on Monday evening, May 10th, and will continue until Tuesday afternoon. Tuesday evening the opening session of classis will be held. Classis will continue until Thursday afternoon. The Woman's Classical Missionary society will have its first session Wednesday morning, May 12. The probabilities are that we will have from sixty to seventy delegates present at these meetings. The delegates are to be furnished lodging and breakfast by the families who entertain them. They will get their dinners and suppers at the restaurants.

The Woman's Missionary society is arranging for the entertainment of delegates and has appointed the following persons on the committee of entertainment: Mrs. C. G. Gumpper, Mrs. Ed Close, Mrs. John Snyder, Mrs. H. P. Dinger, Mr. Bitner, Mr. William Siebold, Mr. Frank Leikauf, Mrs. Chas. Clark, Dr. A. K. Zartman and W. F. Close.

The families who will entertain delegates can report to the chairman of the committee, Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer or to any member of the committee. A reception committee has also been appointed which will be announced in the next issue of the Visitor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

It has been very gratifying to see the increase in attendance and new enthusiasm in our Sunday School since the "Lyon meetings." We are working hard to reach the 200 mark in attendance—highest so far has been 169. If a few of us would make it our business to get out some one else we would quickly reach the goal.

The men are organizing a Bible class and when this is done we want to get other classes in the school thoroughly organized for aggressive work for "our school" and "our class." We need the help of every one in the Sunday school.

There has been quite an increase in the membership of the teen age boys, class taught by Mr. Williams. Most of these boys are in the catechetical class and will be received into the church at our Easter services. The boys have been singing for some of our services and we have enjoyed it very much. Mr. Williams is filling a very trying and responsible position in this class and he needs the help and encouragement of all of us and especially that of the parents of the boys.

We are planning for a big Easter day service in the Sunday school, and there will be souvenirs for every one. We want every baby on the cradle roll to bring its parents—extra souvenirs for the cradle roll members. Every one in any way connected with the Sunday school or church should meet with us on Easter. The classes will be supplied with invitation postals for this service.

Plan to attend all the services during Easter week—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS FOR MEN.

The men of the church have held two meetings preliminary to organizing a bible class. A charter has been obtained and will be held open for signatures until the evening of April 8, when a business meeting will be held for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization and the election of permanent officers. At present W. F. Close, as superintendent of the Sunday School is acting as president. A membership committee has been appointed with Harry Metzner chairman, and the following members: Perry Monn, John Brewer, Charles Rogers, E. A. Close. As many men as can be seen will be met by members of this committee and invited to join this Bible Class on or before Easter Sunday. Every man in the church is earnestly invited to join and see one of these brothers in regard to it. However whether you are personally approached in the matter or not, you are most cordially invited to meet with the class in the Sunday School Easter Morning. If you can't possibly come at that time, don't fail to attend the organization meeting on Thursday, April 8, at 8 o'clock. Following the business session a lunch will be served and a social session held.—Don't fail to join this class, men.

Mrs. Gertrude Thompson Sheets, from Newcastle, Pa., is at home spending a few weeks with her parents on E. Creighton avenue. She came especially to be with her mother after her return from the hospital. She is quite well and happy as usual. We are always glad to see her back to Fort Wayne.

You've got to come down off your high perch.

When you find a seeking sinner and a seeking Saviour you always have one result, a sinner converted.

Isn't it strange you must be urged to do the thing you know you ought to do?

It is a great thing when one realizes his massive littleness.

Grace Church Visitor

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, D. D., Editor and Pub.

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year

THE BUSINESS SIDE OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

At the recent social evening given for the members of the church, both young and old and new, I took occasion to explain to those who might not understand, our method of financing the church. Of course everyone knows that it takes money to keep up the church and its benevolences and this must come from the members. Every one should be ready and willing to help to the best of their ability. A number have recently secured cartons and expect to contribute toward the support of the church. In order to meet our obligations we need the liberal support of every member. If you are not now a regular contributor get a supply of envelopes and begin. If you have not kept up your payments during the Lyon meetings may I ask you to take care of the matter as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,
W. F. CLOSE,
Financial Secretary.

THE SICK.

Mrs. Boals, we are glad to say, is very much better and has been able to be out doors some.

Mr. Gavin has been getting through the winter very well and with the coming of spring and better weather, when he can get out more, we believe he will improve very much.

Mrs. Henderson has not been out very much all winter, but has gotten along splendidly. She was out several times to the meetings at the tabernacle. If she was a few years younger she would set a merry pace at church going for some of the people.

Mrs. Gavin, though not feeling at all

well, has been at many of the services through the winter. She shows her interest in the church and church services. She makes an effort to come, and she is a benediction to the service, and we are sure is blessed in coming.

Mrs. Schrack has been very ill and is not able to be up much of the time. She has been in failing health for a number of years. She has been very patient in all of her suffering. We hope she may soon be much better.

Mrs. Maud Baum has not changed very much in her condition during the winter. In all of her years of illness and suffering she has been resigned and uncomplaining. She is simply trusting in the Lord and committing herself into His keeping, believing that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord.

Mr. Schrack has been very ill and severe attack of grip. She has not been out of the house for a number of weeks though she is now getting better.

Mrs. Walter Close has been having a hard battle with the grip and has suffered intensely. She was threatened with pneumonia for a few days, but escaped. She is improving slowly.

Mrs. Thompson has just returned home from the Lutheran hospital, where she had been for a few weeks for quiet and rest. She is very much better.

Mrs. Romy was housed up with a bad cold for a month or more. She is about well again and will be out soon.

Visit the sick in the church and the people who have just come in with us. There is nothing that promotes Christian love and fellowship like going into the homes of the people and spending a little time with them. Interest yourself in their welfare and say some words of encouragement and cheer to them, and they will respond and get close to you. The Christian life is a life of fellowship, of service and of love.

When the church people get awake the devil will get awake, and don't you forget it.

ANNUAL REPORTS**CONTINUED****REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S AID SOCIETY.**

Balance in treas. of 1914.	\$ 13.91
Dues	\$ 36.30
Janitor	4.40
Sewing	11.75
Social teas	49.90
Suppers	127.04
X'mas sale	45.16
Miscellaneous	32.89
	<hr/> \$307.44

Total\$321.35

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid on new carpet	
in full	\$146.00
Paid for janitor work...	49.50
Miscellaneous	7.50
	<hr/> 203.00

Bal. in treasury Jan. 1, '15...\$118.35

MRS. FRANK LEIKAUF,
Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**RECEIPTS.**

	Monthly	Thank
	Dues	Offering
January	\$2.60	\$2.11
February	1.50	.25
March	4.98	1.25
April	3.17	4.66
May	1.30	29.38
June	2.25	
July	2.25	.25
August	2.35	.10
September	3.45	.10
October	7.25	4.25
November	1.40	.10
December	1.75	.35

Total\$34.50 \$42.80

Total Receipts\$77.30

EXPENDITURES.

Apportionment	\$23.26
Classical social	3.00
Church building fund, Rev. Mori.	5.75
Scholarship fund	5.00

Seminary	10.00
S. S. Forward Movement	2.98
Mrs. Hoy, Christmas Offering...	4.25

Total\$69.99

Balance in treasury 7.31

MRS. J. H. STRAUB,
Treasurer.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR.

Report for year November 1, 1913, to
November 1, 1914:

RECEIPTS.

By advertisements	\$143.00
By subscriptions	22.00

Total\$165.00

EXPENDITURES

To printing	\$ 75.00
Repairs on parsonage, new bath tub, heater, plumbing, etc. ...	73.00
Repairs on barn	68.00
Papering, painting, etc.	40.00

Total\$256.00

Receipts by entertainment\$21.00

Gift Mrs. Zartman 58.00

Total\$79.00

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR LAYMEN'S LEAGUE.

I submit herewith treasurer's report
of the Laymen's League of Grace Re-
formed Church for the year 1914:

RECEIPTS.

Am't on hand Jan. 1, '14. \$ 2.04

Net receipts from New

Year's supper 24.99

Am't collected from dues

and initial offering 8.30

\$35.00

EXPENDITURES.

Duplex envelopes for '15. \$15.80

New treasurer's book 1.50

Unpaid bill for flowers

from previous year 2.00

19.30

On hand Jan. 1, 1915\$16.03

Respectfully,
ABRAM JONES,
Treasurer.

C. E. TOPICS AND LEADERS.**April.**

4th. Conquering Discouragements.
Ps. 27: 1-14 (Consecration meeting).
Mrs. F. D. Knot.

11th. Getting Ready for the Next
Life. Col. 3: 1-4. Easter meeting.
Clarence Aiken.

18th. One Day in Seven for the
Highest Things. Ezek. 20: 1-20. (Sab-
bath observance meeting.) Edith Shif-
fer.

25th. The Bible, the World's Su-
preme Book. Deut. 6: 1-9. Elsie
Weickart.

Greet the strangers cordially who
come to the church service. Greet them
as you would if they came to your
home. What the people need is a "lit-
tle bit of love." Open your hearts to
them and give them a warm welcome.
Don't be afraid to shake hands with
them. There is lots of religion in a
warm grasp of the hand. Invite them
back to the services and do it so they
will feel that you mean it.

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